

Message

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Sent: 1/25/2022 11:49:10 PM
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Subject: Fwd: FOR REVIEW: Board update: Truck Convoy

Unclassified

Chief,

For Review....we would like to issue tomorrow at 9. We will also have an internal note for approval.

John

Chair and Members of the Board,

The purpose of this email is to provide you with an operational update on the preparations underway for an expected demonstration involving a trucker convoy (known as the Freedom Convoy) that is scheduled to arrive in Ottawa beginning Friday, January 28th.

This [Toronto Star article](#) provides some additional background information regarding the convoy.

Current Information

At this time, the exact number of participants is not known. However, all open source information and our interactions with organizers indicate that this will be a significant, peaceful and extremely fluid event that could go on for a prolonged period (January 28 to 30). Our operational planning reflects this assessment and is being designed to adapt to multiple scenarios.

We are working with our City of Ottawa and policing partners to help manage what we anticipate to be significant traffic disruptions and delays in Ottawa throughout this coming weekend. We are also working on staffing plans to minimize the impact on police calls for service across Ottawa unrelated to the convoy.

Residents can expect to see a large police and emergency services presence in the downtown core and on major highways and roads throughout this event.

Our priority is to maintain the safety of members of our community and participants in the demonstration.

Contact with Organizers

Our Special Events Section is in regular contact with the organizers of the event to establish dialogue and encourage open communication. Multiple discussions are underway regarding parking, traffic flow, on site security and ensuring that emergency lanes are kept open.

Police Liaison Officers will be the demonstrator's first point of contact on the ground.

The information and intelligence gathered indicate that this will be a peaceful demonstration as they have been in other cities thus far.

Communications to the Public

A joint communication strategy is being developed with the City of Ottawa to ensure members of the public are kept informed of city-wide traffic and transit plans as they develop throughout this demonstration. This will involve both traditional and social media.

The Ottawa Police Service and its partners manage public safety-related issues at hundreds of demonstrations every year. We work with organizers to preserve the peace and minimize impacts for residents and businesses while protecting the right to demonstrate.

Police have a sworn duty to maintain public order and preserve the peace. The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms guarantees certain rights and fundamental freedoms, including opinion, expression and peaceful assembly.

We will continue to keep the Board updated throughout this demonstration as more information is available.

Trish Ferguson

A/Deputy Chief